MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Government object to people collecting manure from places outside the areas already allowed.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Will not permission granted for removal of manure leaves from Forest Reserve under certain restrictions minimise chances of forest fires?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): It is a matter of opinion.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): In places where there are no scrub jungle reserves is the Government of opinion that manure leaves could not be collected by the neighbouring farmers without damage to the forest produce?

PRESIDENT: That is asking for opinion.

Wet lands in the Forest Reserves in the Nedumangad taluk.

60. ***MR. S. J. NAIR** (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is some wet land known as "Kattilakuzhy Karikam" inside the Palode Reserve in Nedumangad taluk;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, its extent;

(*c*) whether any person has applied for its registry;

(*d*) if the answer to part (*c*) is in the affirmative, who has applied and when that application was put in

(*e*) what action has been taken upon the said application and

(*f*) whether they have settled upon giving the land in registry to the said applicant?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) About 5 acres roughly.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) One Joseph of Nambivilakam House, Puttichakonam Muri Anchamada pakuthi, on 14-6-1110.

(*e*) The matter is under correspondence.

(*f*) In view of answer to (*e*) the question does not arise.

V. P. School for Girls at Karakulam.

61. ***MR. S. J. NAIR** (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) how many girl's schools there are in Nedumangad taluk;

(*b*) whether there is any proposal to discontinue the V. P. School for Girls at Karakulam;

(*c*) whether they are aware that Nedumangad taluk is most backward in point of education, and especially of female education;

(*d*) whether the V. P. School for Girls at Karakulam is put up in a Government building;

(*e*) if the answer to part (*d*) is in the negative, how long it is put up in a rented building; and

(*f*) why no building is constructed to put up the above school?

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MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Officiating Director of Public Instruction*): (*a*) Five.

(*b*) None.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) About a year.

(*f*) Owing to financial stringency.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know how many departmental V. P. Schools there are in the Nedumangad taluk?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Officiating Director of Public Instruction*): I would refer the member to the list of schools published by Government.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the member whether all the Departmental schools in the taluk are not put up in rented buildings?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Officiating Director of Public Instruction*): I claim notice.

Economic Development Board.

62 ***SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) when the present Economic Development Board was brought into existence;

(*b*) what its functions are;

(*c*) whether, since its inception, it has ever been re-organised;

(*d*) if so, when and how; and

(*e*) whether they propose to re-organise it in the near future to enable it to serve the cause of economic development in a better and more efficient manner?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) 1921.

(*b*) (1) To discuss all questions of policy relating to the working of various Development Departments such as Agriculture and Fisheries, Industries, Forest, Co-operation and Excise.

(2) To consider important proposals and schemes sent by each individual Development Department of Government and to make recommendations thereon.

(3) To make suggestions to Government in regard to Agricultural, Industrial and other matters of economic importance and to coordinate the work of the several Development Departments.

(4) To publish the Travancore Economic Journal so that it may become a common organ of all the Development Departments.

(*c*) Yes four times, in 1923, 1926, 1929 and 1932.

(*d*) In 1923 The number of the members was reduced to 9 and the head clerk was made the ex-officio Secretary to the Board and the tenure of the members extended to 3 years.

In 1926—The number of the members was increased to 11 and the formation of sub-committees was stopped.

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[Mr. T. C. Thommen.]

In 1929—Number of members was increased to 12.

In 1932—Number of members was raised to 13 and the post of the head clerk was abolished.

(*e*) Government do not think it necessary to reorganise the Board now.

SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA (*Nominated*) : May I know from the member whether a mere increase in the number of members will increase the efficiency of the Board ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) ; An increase in the number of members will naturally increase the activities of the Board.

SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA (*Nominated*) : May I know from the member whether in the reorganisation, permission was given for women being represented on the Board ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : No.

SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA (*Nominated*) : May I know the reason ?

MR T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Apparently no women came forward.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : A point of order, Sir. I do not understand the answer. Is it that women are expected to apply for the membership in the Development Board ?

PRESIDENT : I am not concerned with the nature of the answer. A supplementary question was put and the Government member answered it and the member who put the question is satisfied and she has resumed her seat. No point of order arises.

MR. K. R. ELANKATH (*Kalkulam I*) : May I know from the member whether in such Boards the difference of sex and communal claims or representations are accepted by Government ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): No.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*) : May I know whether the Rubber Expert is a member of the Board ?

MR. T C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Not at present.

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*) : Will the Government raise the number from 13 to 14 by appointing a lady member when they next reorganise the Board ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): If any women with special interest in the economic development of the country come forward, probably Government may consider the matter.

MR M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : May I know the principle upon which members are appointed to the Board ?

M. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Apparently Government select persons who show special interest in the economic development of the country.

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